

# Rhode Island *Opportunities in Tomorrow's Workforce*



Rhode Island employment is expected to increase by over 50,000 jobs during the 2000-2010 projection period. Employment in 2010 is projected to reach 553,533; an increase of 50,143 (10.0%) from the 2000 employment level of 503,390\*.

## *Employment by Major Industry Division*

	2000 Employment	2010 Employment	Absolute Change	Percent Changes
<b>Total</b>	<b>503,390</b>	<b>553,533</b>	<b>50,143</b>	<b>10.0%</b>
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	3,479	4,124	645	18.5%
Mining	223	267	44	19.7%
Construction	18,339	21,221	2,882	15.7%
Manufacturing	71,858	61,905	(9,953)	-13.9%
Transportation, Communications & Utilities	20,810	22,997	2,187	10.5%
Wholesale Trade	20,571	20,088	(483)	-2.3%
Retail Trade	88,697	100,055	11,358	12.8%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	29,046	35,301	6,255	21.5%
Services	187,602	223,280	35,678	19.0%
Government <sup>+</sup>	30,191	31,270	1,079	3.6%
Self-Employed	32,574	33,025	451	1.4%

<sup>+</sup> Public Sector, Education and Hospital employment is included in Services.  
Post Office employment is included in Transportation, Communication & Utilities.

## *By Industry*

Job gains are expected in nearly all major industrial sectors of the economy, with the largest gains occurring in Services (+35,678) and Retail Trade (+11,358). Within the Services Sector - Health Services (+10,533), Educational Services (+7,447), Business Services (+4,416), and Social Services (+4,389) are expected to create three quarters of the new jobs due to projected increases in Hospitals and Nursing & Personal Care Facilities; Elementary & Secondary Schools and College & Universities; Computer & Data Processing Services and Personnel Supply Services; and Residential Care and Child Day Care Services. Within Retail Trade, Eating & Drinking Places (+4,175), Miscellaneous Retail Stores (+2,187) and Food Stores (+1,343) are expected to account for over two-thirds of the sector's new jobs.

Mirroring national patterns, employment will decline in the Manufacturing sector by nearly 10,000 jobs. Nearly all

industry groups are projected to decline with the largest losses occurring in Fabricated Metal Products (-1,915), Textiles (-1,676) and Miscellaneous Manufacturing (-1,321). Modest gains are projected for Transportation Equipment (+836), Chemicals & Allied Products (+380) and Food & Kindred Products (+116).

Significant employment gains are also expected in Construction; Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities; and Finance, Insurance & Real Estate. Government jobs are expected to increase slightly over the projection period.

\*Includes wage and salary workers, self-employed, unpaid family members, agricultural, and private household workers.

A product of the:

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## By Occupation

Employment in Rhode Island is projected to grow at all education and skill levels, from jobs requiring on-the-job training to those requiring advanced degrees. Job openings result from the need to replace workers who leave an occupation and to fill vacancies created by business expansion. During the projection period, it is expected that employers will need to find workers to fill over 171,000 job openings. Nearly 30 percent of the job openings are attributed to the economic growth that is expected to occur during this period. The remaining job openings are due to employee turnover, which is usually highest among jobs with low pay and minimal training requirements. These jobs generally attract a higher proportion of young and part-time workers.

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Among the major occupational groups, the highest growth rates are expected in Computer & Mathematical occupations (+41.1%), Community & Social Services occupations (+23.4%), Education, Training and Library occupations (+23.5%), Healthcare Practitioners & Technical occupations (+20.6%), Healthcare Support occupations (+21.8%) and Personal Care & Service occupations (+20.6%). The major occupational groups with the greatest number of expected job openings are Food Preparation and Serving Related occupations (+24,983), Sales & Related occupations (+21,677) and Office & Administrative Support occupations (+20,504).

Occupational decline results from declining industry employment and from technological change. Bank Tellers and Telephone Operators are examples of occupations that are projected to decline due to technological changes. Machinists and Tool & Die Makers are examples of occupations affected by projected declines in Manufacturing. Among the occupations with the largest annual average declines (no openings due to growth) are Assemblers; First Line Supervisors/Managers of Productions & Operating Workers; Word Processors & Typists; Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks; and Secretaries (except Legal or Medical). It is important to note that while these jobs are not expected to create openings due to growth; there will still be a demand for workers in these occupations resulting from the need to replace workers who leave their jobs. For example, despite the lack of growth in the secretarial field, there will still be a demand for 130 secretaries each year resulting from need to replace those who have left their jobs.

## Employment by Major Occupational Category

Occupational Title	Employment		Openings due to		Growth Rate
	2000	2010	Growth	Replacement	
<b>Total</b>	<b>503,390</b>	<b>553,533</b>	<b>50,143</b>	<b>121,115</b>	<b>10.0%</b>
Management Occupations	21,529	23,510	1,981	3,851	9.2%
Business & Financial Operations Occupations	18,233	21,199	2,966	3,260	16.3%
Computer & Mathematical Occupations	9,610	13,560	3,950	880	41.1%
Architecture & Engineering Occupations	8,442	8,298	(144)	1,797	-1.7%
Life, Physical, & Social Science Occupations	4,292	4,925	633	1,184	14.7%
Community & Social Services Occupations	9,873	12,188	2,315	1,609	23.4%
Legal Occupations	4,305	5,096	791	344	18.4%
Education, Training, & Library Occupations	29,538	36,493	6,955	6,413	23.5%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media Occupations	8,059	8,691	632	1,500	7.8%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	31,168	37,595	6,427	6,578	20.6%
Healthcare Support Occupations	15,741	19,169	3,428	2,544	21.8%
Protective Service Occupations	10,403	11,742	1,339	2,927	12.9%
Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	41,343	46,897	5,554	19,429	13.4%
Building and Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance Occupations	16,631	19,069	2,438	3,396	14.7%
Personal Care & Service Occupations	14,678	17,695	3,017	4,074	20.6%
Sales & Related Occupations	50,530	56,342	5,812	15,865	11.5%
Office & Administrative Support Occupations	88,750	90,600	1,850	18,654	2.1%
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry Occupations	942	927	(15)	271	-1.6%
Construction & Extraction Occupations	21,621	24,175	2,554	4,095	11.8%
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Occupations	17,924	19,254	1,330	3,794	7.4%
Production Occupations	50,669	45,269	(5,400)	11,635	-10.7%
Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	29,109	30,839	1,730	7,015	5.9%

## ***Fastest Growing Jobs***

It is projected that the Rhode Island economy will generate 50,143 new jobs during the 2000-2010 projection period. The *fastest growing* occupations in Rhode Island are those with a projected 2010 employment level of 500 or more and a growth rate of at least 20.0 percent, twice the average for all occupations.

Occupational Title	Employment		Growth	Annual Replacement	Total
	2000	2010			
Registered Nurses	12,255	15,051	280	248	527
Computer Support Specialists	2,937	4,944	201	13	213
Customer Service Representatives	7,235	9,221	199	61	260
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers	8,447	10,272	183	517	700
Nursing Aides, Orderlies & Attendants	8,248	9,978	173	105	278
Teacher Assistants	5,337	6,929	159	112	271
Social & Human Service Assistants	2,039	2,987	95	30	125
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special & Vocational	4,020	4,973	95	122	218
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	3,565	4,315	75	77	152
Computer Software Engineers, Applications	970	1,547	58	7	64
Special Education Teachers, except Secondary	1,230	1,805	58	16	73
Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession & Coffee Shop	2,610	3,182	57	203	260
Personal & Home Care Aides	1,710	2,253	54	26	80
Medical Assistants	1,118	1,630	51	30	81
Correctional Officers & Jailers	1,285	1,780	50	31	81
Computer Systems Analysts	1,432	1,929	50	13	62
Construction Laborers	2,029	2,515	49	19	67
Securities, Commodities, & Financial Services Sales Agents	1,175	1,603	43	10	52
Amusement & Recreation Attendants	998	1,404	41	34	74
Pharmacy Technicians	1,008	1,409	40	26	66
Network & Computer Systems Administrators	661	1,020	36	3	39
Financial Analysts	861	1,181	32	12	44
Bus Drivers, School	1,429	1,734	31	36	67
Claims Adjusters, Examiners, & Investigators	1,381	1,679	30	15	45
Loan Officers	1,002	1,287	29	20	49
Health Diagnosing & Treating Practitioners, All Other	1,437	1,724	29	31	60
Personal Financial Advisors	479	759	28	6	34
Computer & Information Systems Managers	796	1,066	27	13	40
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	1,214	1,488	27	15	43
Medical & Health Services Managers	1,109	1,373	26	19	46
Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	1,090	1,315	23	29	51
Computer Software Engineers, Systems Software	527	744	22	4	25
Fitness Trainers & Aerobics Instructors	767	989	22	16	38
Medical Records & Health Information Technicians	615	821	21	14	34
Hotel, Motel, & Resort Desk Clerks	421	620	20	18	38
Speech-Language Pathologists	499	699	20	13	33
Bakers	926	1,126	20	15	35
Physical Therapists	629	816	19	16	34
Public Relations Specialists	684	877	19	12	31
Educational, Vocational, & School Counselors	709	903	19	15	34
Interviewers, Except Eligibility & Loan	725	911	19	15	34
Paralegals & Legal Assistants	753	936	18	5	23
Substance Abuse & Behavioral Disorder Counselors	588	745	16	12	28
Dental Hygienists	596	746	15	9	24
Respiratory Therapists	366	505	14	9	23
Special Education Teachers, Secondary School	483	627	14	6	21
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers	393	526	13	4	18
Graduate Teaching Assistants	521	652	13	14	27
Self-Enrichment Education Teachers	530	657	13	5	18
Occupational Therapists	386	505	12	10	22
Manicurists & Pedicurists	401	520	12	10	22
Appraisers & Assessors of Real Estate	500	621	12	14	26
Vocational Education Teachers, Postsecondary	440	553	11	12	23
Kindergarten Teachers, Except Special Education	457	568	11	6	17
Sheet Metal Workers	432	534	10	9	19
Emergency Medical Technicians & Paramedics	433	521	9	11	20



## High Demand Occupations

The top fifty occupations with the greatest number of annual openings represent numerous opportunities for finding employment in the years ahead. They are considered “High Demand” occupations. It is projected that during the 2000-2010 period, employers will need to fill over 171,000 jobs resulting from employee turnover and economic growth. Rhode Island businesses will seek to fill over 17,000 positions each year, more than half of those openings will occur among the occupations listed below.

Occupational Title	Annual Openings	Occupational Title	Annual Openings
Retail Salespersons	770	Receptionists & Information Clerks	136
Waiters & Waitresses	703	Carpenters	132
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers	700	Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	132
Cashiers	644	Social & Human Service Assistants	125
Registered Nurses	527	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	125
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants	278	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	124
Teacher Assistants	271	Cooks, Restaurant	119
Customer Service Representatives	260	Accountants & Auditors	116
Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, & Coffee Shop	260	Security Guards	115
Office Clerks, General	249	Truck Drivers, Light or Delivery Services	111
Laborers and Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	248	Tellers	110
Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	238	Executive Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	109
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	238	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Office & Administrative Support Workers	109
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special & Vocational	218	Bartenders	103
Food Preparation Workers	214	Counter & Rental Clerks	101
Computer Support Specialists	213	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Production & Operating Workers	98
Child Care Workers	209	Packers & Packagers, Hand	98
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	187	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Food Preparation & Serving Workers	97
Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing	165	General & Operations Managers	93
Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	164	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, & Cosmetologists	88
First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Retail Sales Workers	158	Team Assemblers	86
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	152	Dishwashers	82
Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	151	Medical Assistants	81
		Correctional Officers & Jailers	81
		Business Operations Specialists, All Other	81
		Personal & Home Care Aides	80
		Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	80

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